can exhibit better than he. The police authorities, having assisted Coorjee Pragjee to obtain possession of the ground, were committed by a sense of honour to assist him further; and the Government was saddled with the expenses of this prosecution, which should rightly have been borne by Coorjee Pragjee himself. It was in evidence that, instead of asking that the door in the compound wall might be opened, or going round by the main door, which was open, Mr. Souter ordered it to be burst open, and he and the police rushed upon the sacred precincts of the Towers of Silence. The men there were seized and huddled like a flock of sheep into a hut nearest the compound wall. They were arrested and manacled with every indignity. As soon as the men saw that the police were serious, they surrendered themselves with a good grace. Coming to the question of identification, Mr. Chalk said there were scores of his clients against whom there was no evidence, and whom he might take as already discharged. Some of the defendants had been identified by Mr. Brown and Mr. McDermot. As to the rest, it must be remarked, that the *esprit de corps* had enabled the other police witnesses to identify many more. Without imputing anything against the honesty of the latter, Mr. Chalk must say, that they had evidently been doing what Thackersey called, "only backing up your party"—and that was, in his opinion, the secret of the extraordinary powers of identification shewn by the native police witnesses. It was highly improbable that, out of such a large crowd, they could identify so many persons without any previous acquaintance, without knowing their names, profession, or residence, or without even accompanying them to the Mazagon office. The most prominent among them was the jemadar who, Mr. Chalk dared say, expected his promotion, and he undertook to identify twenty five-men. The three European witnesses between them could not identify more than eight. There was one native policeman who identified thirteen persons, of whose names, residence, or profession he had not the least knowledge. He desired to have done all he could in obedience to Mr. Mahon's injunction to identify more; but he could identify only thirteen. There were only three or four of his clients, Mr. Chalk said, against whom there was any evidence; and as to the rest, they should not have been included in the charge or proceeded against. If those of his clients against whom there was no evidence, as well as those against whom there was the evidence of only one witness, were discharged, Mr. Chalk said he should be content with any decision his Worship might come to; otherwise he should be obliged to call evidence on behalf of the thirteen persons against whom only one witness had spoken.

The magistrate here directed the names and numbers of twenty-two defendants, against whom there was no evidence, to be called out; and they were then discharged. The numbers were 9, 11, 15, 17, 19, 23, 29, 33, 34, 35, 36, 46, 49, 50, 52, 54, 55, 57, 59, 70, 71, 73.

Mr. Chalk said No. 21 was a toddy-drawer, and he should call evidence on his behalf unless he was discharged.

Mr. Peile, in the absence of Mr. Ferguson, who had left the Court, said he could not accede to the man's discharge.

Mr. Chalk said that he must apply for an adjournment to call evidence. He never thought that he would be required to call evidence. He felt very strongly that those dozen men should not be further exposed to the trouble of a prosecution if his Worship intended to send up the case. It would be unfair to them if he refrained from calling evidence on their behalf. Only one policeman spoke against them. Those men were defendants Nos. 29, 21, 24, 25.

The Magistrate—Nos. 24 and 25 were simply seen running into the Towers of Silence compound. There is nothing further against them than that.

Mr. Chalk—No. 40 is in the same position.

The Magistrate—He was given into custody on the ground.

Mr. Chalk—Then there are defendants Nos. 45, 47, 58, 62, 64.

The Magistrate—No. 64 is identified by three witnesses.

Mr. Chalk—Then Nos. 65, 68, and 69. These are the persons for whose discharge I applied.

The Magistrate—I hoped to have concluded the case to-day as far as the evidence is concerned. I wish your witnesses were here.

Mr. Chalk—I am sorry, but I cannot expose my clients to the trouble of further prosecution. I feel under the obligation of calling my witnesses. It is a matter of regret to us all that the case should proceed any further in this Court.

The Magistrate then adjourned the case until 2 P.M. to-day.

INDIAN ITEMS.

Mr. Futty Mahomed Khan, the Mhow Vakeel and Railway Agent of the Holkar, has returned from leave of absence. He has not come back a day too soon—as such a man as he can ill be spared from his duties, which he carried on with so much advantage to the Holkar and credit to himself.

Treasure.—Treasure to the extent of five lakhs of rupees is expected to arrive in Madras from the South Arcot, on Wednesday next at 11 A.M. consigned to the Bank of Madras; a havildar's guard from the 37th Grenadiers has been ordered to escort the treasure from the Railway Central Station to the Bank.

Sarcastic.—Those who were present in the University Senate House yesterday (Saturday) on the occasion of the distribution of prizes and diplomas to the pupils of the Medical College must feel that either the building should be pulled down, or those whose speeches nobody cares to hear, should in future be asked to speechify there.—*Indian Mirror.*

The late Fatal Accident on the Strand.—The Coroner with a Jury held an inquest last week over the body of the *bhistie* run over by a buggy on last Sunday week on the Strand. The two gentlemen in the buggy who were reported in our columns to have driven off after the accident, subsequently surrendered themselves to the police. Their names are respectively T. M. Williams and Roderick Morrison, the former is chief officer of the s.s. Moulmein, and the latter a purser's clerk on the s.s. Burmah. They were in attendance at the inquest. The verdict returned was: Death caused by being accidentally run over by a buggy. We understand the widow of the deceased *bhistie* has been compensated by the two gentlemen with a sum of Rs. 50—*Englishman.*

Improper Conduct towards a Court of Justice.—On Saturday last, eight native women were charged before Mr. Srinavassa Row, at the Egmore Police Court, with disorderly behaviour, and being convicted were each fined eight annas. The whole of the defendants paid their fines and on leaving the Court, one of them, named Mareamah and her husband began throwing sand at the Court and abusing it in a very indecent language. This was brought to the notice of Police Sergeant Rankin by a police constable, and he put the defendants into the dock before the magistrate. His Worship convicted the defendants and sentenced them to pay a fine of two rupees each, or, in default, to suffer five days' rigorous imprisonment.—*Madras Mail.*

Application for a Further Adjournment of Captain Steuart's Case.—Captain Allan Steuart applied on Monday for a further adjournment of his case in order that he might be allowed an opportunity of examining some witnesses by commission, as they could not be got down from Hyderabad, they being out of jurisdiction of the High Court. He also applied that the Court would order a commission under its seal to issue for the examination of such witnesses at some place within the jurisdiction of the High Court which shall hereafter be named. The prisoner put in two affidavits in support of his application, and his Lordship after looking at these affidavits said that he was satisfied that the witnesses were necessary and would make an order for the issue of the commission. His Lordship, however, let the application stand over until the production of further bail by the prisoner.—*Madras Mail.*

A Private of H. M.'s 1-21st Fusiliers Drowned.—On the night of Thursday last two Privates of the 1-21st Fusiliers, named Jonathan Clarke and Patrick O'Neil, broke out of their barracks, in the Fort, while under the influence of liquor, and went to the *Bee-Hive* Tavern, where they indulged themselves in drink. On leaving the place, between the hours of 9 and 10, they purchased a bottle of rum and took it with them to the beach near the Royapooram railway station. Here they broke the neck of the bottle and finished the rum. On the following day about 2 A.M., a police constable found Clarke lying drunk on the beach and took him to the lock-up. He was made over to the military authorities after day-break. The same evening the dead body of O'Neil was found on the beach near Ennore. The corpse was brought to the Native Infirmary at Washermanpettah. Dr. Stanbrough, the Acting Coroner, held an inquest on the body, and the jury returned a verdict to the effect that death was caused by drowning.—*Ibid.*

REORGANIZATION OF THE NATIVE ARMY.

To the Editor of the "Civil and Military Gazette."

Sir,—I am glad to observe that you are warmly advocating a reorganization of the native army, and, as regards the European officers, a return to the regimental system.

It has certainly been clearly proved that the Staff Corps is a great blunder, producing five times as many Field Officers as are necessary, and not one-fifth the required number of Lieutenants and Captains.

In no army in the world is there such a muddle, or such ignoring of all proper relative rank and position between Regimental Officers. In some regiments Colonels and Lieutenant-Colonels are doing the duties that should be done by Captains or Lieutenants. In others, Lieutenants and Captains are doing the duties of Majors and Lieutenant-Colonels!

The apparent indifference shown by the military authorities to the present state of affairs is remarkable, especially when we come to consider, that, under the present or Staff Corps system, matters must steadily and rapidly become worse each year.

Lord Northbrook could not do a greater service to the Indian Army, than by abolishing the Staff Corps, were he to introduce a proper regimental system.

There is no great difficulty in the matter. I would suggest as follows:—

1. Stop all further admission to the Staff Corps.

2. Appoint a select Army Committee, to enquire into, and fix on, the proper number of officers of each grade that are really required for a Native Battalion.

3. Then, in accordance with these numbers, from the new regimental lists, by placing on them the officers of 2 or 3 battalions, according to rank and dates of commissions, and let all future regimental promotions and appointments be made on and from these lists according to seniority.

4. The present native regiments being grouped, according to class or nationality, into so many battalions of the new regiments.

5. The new regimental lists to be composed, as far as possible, of the present European officers, whether Staff Corps, Local General List. All superfluous Field Officers, for whom places could not be found on the new lists, being dealt with liberally, and allowed either to serve on unemployed, for future promotion, or Colonel's allowances, under the Staff Corps rules; or being compounded with for the present value of their Colonel's allowance.

6. All Lieutenant-Colonels who come under the new organization, *on its introduction*, to succeed to Colonel's allowance under the existing (12 year) rule. All officers promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel, *i. e.*, under the operation of the new organization, to succeed to Colonel's allowances, as vacancies occur on a separate list, to be formed of the, say, 1 in 30 officers, for the new organization. This list being formed of the *senior* Colonels on Colonel's allowances, as soon as all the Lieutenant-Colonels who joined the new organization on its formation have succeeded to Colonel's allowances.

A Regimental Officer.

AFFAIRS IN CHINA.

Our telegrams tell us of the death of Suleiman, the self-constituted "Sultan" of the revolted Mahometan provinces of Western China, and by this time the Budhist ruler of Mandalay has received and replied to the congratulatory messages of the Budhist ruler of Pekin. The news we confess is very unwelcome to us. Between the two obstructive courts of Ava and China have passed words of rejoicing over the annihilation of a power whose growth Europe has watched with interest, as the harbinger of a better time that was coming for Yunan, the herald of trade between India and China. The fight has been a long and desultory one. Momien was for many years the centre of conflict, but at no time did either party seem altogether in earnest. From time to time it was true the news of pitched battles and carnage used to reach the outer public but were never believed. The news of the embassy to England appears, however, to have awakened China at last in earnest to the scandal of a successful revolt upon her western limits; a crushing force has been despatched to the Sultan's capital, and all its inhabitants have been slaughtered and its brave ruler killed. Confirmation of this news we have, curiously enough, received from another source, the *Gazette* of the Chinese Government. In it the Emperor passes orders for the erection in Talifoo of memorial tablets in honour of the Imperialist soldiers who fell at the sacking of the city, and with its fall also our hopes of the western route to China. The Yunanese were always favourable to British enterprise, the Chinese never.—*Pioneer.*

THE CONTRACT ACT.

A story has lately reached us, which throws some discredit on a clause in Mr. Fitzjames Stephen's Contract Act. A contractor in Bengal—call him *A*—having a quantity of old iron for sale, wrote to an acquintance in the Punjab—call his *B*—offering the iron for Rs. 1,000. *B* promptedly wrote to accept the proposal, and posted his letter the day after the receipt of *A's* offer. The letter, however, as was afterwards ascertained, fell through a crack in the box in which it was deposited at the Punjab Post Office, and was not found for more than a month afterwards. *A* waited more or less impatiently for three weeks, when, receiving no reply to his proposal, he sold the iron to a third party, *C*. About a week after the sale, *B's* letter reached *A* with explanations from the Post Office, where it had been so long detained, and *A* immediately wrote to *B* to express his regret at the occurrance. *B*, being of a somewhat litigious turn of mind, after a careful study of the Contract Act, field a suit against *A* for breach of contract. The astonished *A* appeared in court, and proved that the letter had not reached him, till more than a month after his proposal reached *B*, and a week after the sale to *C*, and proved moreover that *B* was perfectly aware of these facts, which *B*, who of course appeared by an agent, did not deny. The Judge was on the point of summarily dismissing the case, when, at the solicitation of *B's* agent, he referred to Section 4 of the Contract Act, where he found it stated that "the communication of an acceptance is complete, *as against the proposer when it is put in a course of transmission to him, so as to be out of the power of the acceptor*, as against the acceptor, when it comes to the knowledge of the proposer." Now, it was undeniable that *B's* letter of acceptance was "put in course of transmission" to *A*, and would if delivered in the ordinary time, have reached him about three weeks before the sale to *C*. Therefore, as against *A*, the proposer, the acceptance was complete on the day the letter was posted. But the inevitable conclusion, that *A* was liable for having failed to act on a letter which, through no fault of his own, he had not received, was so flagrantly inequitable, that the Judge at first thought the clauses must have been transposed by a printer's error. Having undeceived himself on this point by comparing several editions of the Act, he was reluctantly compelled to give the plaintiff a decree for damages (without costs), but remarked in his decision that "in his humble opinion the clauses should obviously stand thus:—'The communication of an acceptance is complete, as against the proposer, when it comes to the knowledge of the proposer, as against the acceptor, when it is put in course of transmission to the proposer so as to be out of the power of the acceptor."—*Pioneer.*

WYVILLE THOMSONS "DEPTHS OF THE SEA."

Of how few books can it be said that they add to the stock of human knowledge—that they mark a distinct advance in man's never-ceasing strugle with nature. The book before us, however, is one of these, not so much by what it actually contains as by the new field it opens out to investigators. It bears on two sciences—biology and physics. The science of biology, under the impulse of men like Huxley and Darwin, has made vast strides during the last few years, but it shows how little was known of the very conditions that render life possible, that until the expeditions of which we have a record in this book, it was held that that the conditions were such as to render life at the bottom of the deep sea impossible. This conclusion was arrived at on *a priori* grounds, such as the great pressure, absence of light, want of food, &c.; and in arriving at it, the fact that occasionally animals had been brought up from great depths by the sounding line was ignored. However, in 1869 the question was set at rest for ever, and a plentiful harvest of animal life was dredged up from the astounding depths of 2,435 fathoms (nearly 3 miles). Now, no reliable soundings have yet gone beyond 4,000 fathoms, and it is not an overstrained conclusion to arrive at that, if life be possible at such a depth as 2,000 fathoms, there is nothing to render it impossible at double the distance.

How singular and weird are the conditions of life at 2,000 fathoms beneath the surface of the ocean! Not a glimmer of sunlight ever penetrates this region, the temperature never varies, and the pressure is so great that a man would if stationed there, have to support the weight of "20 locomotives, each with a long goods train loaded with pig-iron." Yet although there is no daylight some of the inhabitants have eyes and having eyes there must be light of some kind, for we know that the eyes of a species continuously deprived of light becoming atrophied—as for instance, the well-known blind cave Canna. It has been suggested that the light they have is from the phosphorescence of their own bodies, and as most of the animals that have been brought up are highly phosphorescent the notion, though not proved, has a certain plausibility. The animals as yet brought up belong to 4 out of the 5 great sub-kingdoms, vertebrates alone being unrepresented. The lowest organization is a mere formless sheet of spume, capable of a slight motion and of assimilating food, but covering an enormous extent stretching over, nearly the whole bed of the ocean—at least, if we may judge from its prevalence in the parts already explored. Besides this, there live and move under that awful pressure, lighted on their way by the ghastly glare of their own bodies, strange and beautiful star fish and sponges, elegant and graceful cirnoidea and other echinoderms, some of them of the most brilliant colouring, and other wonders too numerous to describe. The marvellous results that have resulted from these investigations have been produced by the most inadequate means. The dredge is the instrument employed, and a ruder one can hardly be conceived. A dredge consists of a bag with an iron mouth that is dragged along the bottom of the sea, raking up mud, stones and everything it comes in contact with, often crushing and destroying the more fragile and delicate organisms; bunches of tangles of teazed hemp are attached to the sides of the bag and are found useful in sweeping the ground of what may be on it. The mouth of the drag is about 1½ yards wide, and the tangles cover, say, a space of a yard more—total, 2½ yards. Allowing that each time the dredge goes down it is dragged for 2 miles along the bottom, (and this is ample), and for the 144 casts taken in the Atlantic deep water and recorded in this volume, we get rather under one-third of a square mile explored. Now, the North Atlantic contains 30,000,000 square miles, of which about 3,000,000 square miles of shallow water round the coasts have been pretty fully explored; it follows that as yet about one eighty-millionth part of this ocean alone has as yet been touched. Add to this the South Atlantic, the Pacific, the Arctic and Antartic Oceans, and the numerous other oceans and seas of the world, and what a field is there for the naturalist! What as yet unknown forms of life may we not hope to discover! To a naturalist the following fact will be pregnant with meaning:—In one haul 186 species belonging to 6 orders were brought up, and of these no less than 71 were previously undescribed.

The most important of the minor topics dealt with, in this fascinating volume, is without doubt the question of the temperature of the deep sea is bearing on ocean currents. The observations as yet made are suggestive, but hardly numerous enough to be conclusive, though we may hope that fresh light will be thrown on this subject when the *Challenger* has completed her voyage.—*Pioneer.*

CONTRASTS.

London is the city of contrasts. Nowhere are the lights and shadows of social life so strong, or the extremes of individual character so wide apart. Moralists and social reformers are never tired of pointing the antithesis between East and West, and St. James's and St. Giles's, near together as they lie, are wide as the poles asunder. The author of a small volume, entitled "Contrasts" (Strahan and Co.), and dedicated to the ratepayers of London, calls attention to a new aspect of the old and well-worn antithesis. His purpose is not to excite pity, but "a strong and angrily developed public opinion;" and the object in view is not an increase in the sums devoted to charity, but a diminution in the enormous waste which is caused by the administration of existing resources. The contrasts he exhibits are those between means and ends; between the vast wealth of magnificent endowments and the poverty of their results; between our immense parochial taxation and the inefficiency of parochial government; between the improvements we are making in the external appearance of the metropolis and the evil we are creating in forcing the working multitudes into more crowded houses. The point at which the exhibition of these contrasts comes home to the ratepayers of London is that the writer is "able clearly to prove that we are at present annually contributing from three hundred thousand to half a million more than is required to procure the good obtained."

The administration of the Poor Law is one of our London difficulties. This week the ratepayers in all the parishes elect their Guardians, and everywhere candidates have recommended themselves on the ground of a resolve to keep down the rates. The general idea of the London public is, that to keep down the rates is the one notion of a Poor Law guardian, and that a desire to get some share of the rates is universal among the London poor. But this notion is put in vivid contrast to what is said by the writer of "Contrast" to be the reality of things. He describes some terrible struggles he has witnessed in the efforts of the very poor to keep off the parish. Here is a street in St. George's-in-the-East. It contains about seventy-four-roomed houses, and the inhabitants average four to every room. We enter one of the houses. In the first room is a slipper-maker. Her husband is a dock labourer out of work. She makes the "uppers" of carpet slippers, sewing up the sides and binding the edges. Her eldest girl helps her, and between them they make a dozen and a half of these uppers a day by constant work. The pay is 3½d. a dozen. No wonder she is forced sometimes to take outdoor relief; and some help she gets from charity encourages rather than demoralises her. In another room is a poor widow with two children, a boy and girl—the boy eleven, the girl thirteen. They were employed at a lucifer-match factory, and earned, between them from three shillings to three and six pence a week; the mother got occasional work in washing. The boy has broken down, and is ill of fever and a neighbour, a slipper-maker from the room above, has brought her work down that she may watch him while his mother is away. The boy had been ill some time, and the mother had refused to degrade herself by letting him go to the workhouse. The neighbours had, however, persuaded her to let him go, but she had been unable to live without him, and, ill as he was, had fetched him back. The present regulations about infectious diseases were not then in force. In yet another room of the same house was an old woman, miserably dressed, half leaning against, half sitting on her squalid truckle bed. A table and a broken chair were all her furniture. The reverse on the mantelpiece a jug, a cracked tumbler, a tea pot, and a cup without a saucer, but there was no fire in the grate. On a shelf close to the fireplace was a bit of bread, a little packet containing perhaps an ounce and a parcel which looked like a quarter of a pound of brown sugar. A table were two strong knives and a whetstone, with some pieces of wood such as might be picked up in a carpenter's yard; the floor was covered with chips. Her occupation was that of making wooden skewers for dogs' and cats' meat; she got eightpence a thousand for them, and found her own wood. The news was just out that the dog tax would be rigidly enforced, and thousands of dogs would be destroyed. She had tried to extend her trade by making butchers' skewers, but the gipsies threatened to undersell her, and she was in despair, and was just making up her mind that she must come to the workhouse at last. This is all in one house; but a like tale might be told of every house in the street, and in many a street. There are many forms of ill-paid female labour. The drapers have lately begun to sell hooks and eyes by the ounce, but this small change has sent to the workhouse many women who got a scanty living by sewing them on the cards on which they used to be sold. Hundreds of women are employed by the penny toy makers; and a wretched living they earn. The women who stitch together the pieces of gingham or alpaca which make the cover of an umbrella get tenpence for a dozen covers. Those who sift the contents of our dust-bins, to find the valuables and save all the cinders for the use of brick-burners, get about tenpence a day on the average for their work. These and a score of other occupations are the means of living to thousands of labouring people; and it is to these people that outdoor relief is so needful; they are the people whose occasional applications swell the ranks of outdoor pauperism, and it is these to whom charity may wisely be administered. The writer maintains, in contrast to much that it now generally believed, that there is little danger of the demoralisation of the poor by charity; and that after all the poor themselves give more to help the poor than is ever given by the rich. He declares, indeed, that outdoor relief supplemented by private charity is better for the poor and cheaper for the public than the workhouse. Take a dock labourer who keeps a wife and four children on eighteen shillings a week. An accident or a long east-wind throws him out of work. He asks for relief and gets four shillings a week and four loaves of bread. This scanty pittance is eked out by pawning, first, the wife's wedding-ring, then the best clothes, till everything that can be parted with is gone. Then he applies for charity, and gets it for a time; then asks for more liberal parochial relief, and is told he must go into the workhouse. Suppose he goes in, he and his family cost the ratepayers, at once, ten shillings a week each; it would have been clearly cheaper to give him his full eighteen shillings a week, and let him keep his wife and children and his home. Indeed, if private charity well administered so far supplemented his outdoor relief as to keep him from the necessity of pawning, he would not be obliged, when he was again in work, to deny his children proper food in order to redeem the wedding-ring and the best clothes.

But the vindication of private charity and of outdoor relief is not the only way in which the writer endeavours to reverse most of the prevalent impressions as to our London Poor Law Administration. He declares that the guardians of our metropolitan parishes are so far from being "the stony-hearted individuals they are considered," that he believes "it would be impossible for any men to be actuated by more philanthropic motive." The institutions under their management, the writer says, are, on the whole, better managed than those applauded by their accusers; and he gives an emphatic *tu quoque* to "the medical authorities of the metropolitan hospitals who in many instances led the outcry against them." One or two stories of hospital management are worth telling. A maidservant went to one of the great hospitals and had a tooth extracted. Next day her face was worse, and became so bad that her master sent for a surgeon, who found that her jaw was broken. Knowing the operator to be very skilful, he made inquiry, and found that the poor girl had never seen him at all. He had left the hospital when she got there, and the under porter had thought he would learn to be a dentist, and had put on his best clothes, and tried his hand upon her. He, however, knew the mischief he had done, for he left the hospital before any inquiry was made, and has never been heard of since. A bricklayer one day called at the office of a charitable institution in St. James's-square for aid. A strike was on, and the secretary told him they never helped men on strike. "I am not on strike," said the man. "I'm a cripple, and can't work. I've lost the use of my right arm. I'd the misfortune to break it, and have not been able to work with it since." A doctor who happened to be near examined the arm and found it had been wrongly set. He asked who did it. "Faith, I don't know," the man replied, "for I never saw the same young gentleman two days running." He had been an out-patient of a great hospital during the absence of the house-surgeon, and had been attended to by the younger students. The management of our great endowed hospitals is contrasted with the unendowed and parochial institutions greatly to the advantage of the latter. The writer estimates that the cost of the new building of St. Thomas's Hospital has been about 800*l.* for every bed. The cost of a first-class mansion in the West-end with twenty bedrooms, luxuriously furnished, would be, he reckons, about one-third less for each bed. In this estimate the hospital accommodation for out-patients, medical officers, dwellings, &c., is set off against the reception and other rooms of the mansion, and in each case only the bedrooms are compared. This splendid building has been put in the west-end; at the east are only the London Hospital, which is overdone with work, and a hospital lately founded at Poplar. This Poplar hospital cost 30*l.* a bed, and in 1871, received 262 in-patients and treated 2,512 out-patients. It receives more cases of serious accident than any three West-end hospitals put together. Yet it is the worst supported by the rich. But for the working men in the neighbourhood it would have been closed. "The working men in the yards of Messrs. Green, Wigram, Dudgeon, Bellivant, Mundel, Samuda, and others, subscribe out of their small earnings no less a sum than 126*l.* per annum—probably more than all Lombard-street put together."

We cannot follow the writer through his other contrasts. The story of Troutbeck's legacy, left in 1815 to the poor of Wapping, but used to pay the debts of the Prince Regent, suggests a contrast between those times and these. Another contrast is that between Christ's Hospital as it was meant to be—the pauper school of the metropolis, and Christ's Hospital as it is—a purely middle class institution, introduction to which is a matter of interest and patronage. The purely educational endowments of London, which were left for the poor, produce enough to cover the whole tax levied on the Metropolis by the School Board. In the great London Companies there is a similar contrast between their original objects and their present use. Indeed, of all the contrasts of London life, none are more striking than those which this writer points out, between the orginal intention and the present use of the vast charitable endowments we have inherited from the past. He has no remedy to suggest; his hope is, that when once the abuse is fully understood reform will come. He has, perhaps, scarcely done justice to the present administration of London endowments, and is somewhat too indulgent to the existing parochial authorities; but the questions he raises are well worthy of discussion, and he probably points out the true direction in which relief may be gained from the growing pressure of parochial and municipal burdens, without leaving any really needful civic work undone.—*Daily News.*

THE PAST FOOTBALL SEASON IN ENGLAND.

The six months that form the legitimate football season are at an end, and in a few weeks' time wickets will be pitched on many a ground where goals have reared their tall uprights throughout the long, wet winter. And, in truth, the cricket of the winter months has not been favoured by the weather. A fine Saturday afternoon was indeed, a *rara avis* during the first half of the season, and never before have football grounds in any part of the kingdom presented a more dreary aspect. The same complaints of unsound, sodden turf came in alike from north to south, and the results made themselves only too apparent, both the game itself and the players suffering materially. In fact, football towards the close of 1872 was scarcely football at all, the surface of the various grounds resembling a dismal swamp rather than an expanse of elastic berbage, and on, or rather through, this the muddebraggled players stumbled, slipped, and fell like so many village schoolboys on a slide. Anything like good form was impracticable, and the best clubs and the best players found themselves reduced for the nonce to a level with the ruck. But players found the state of the ground disastrous in another way, for accidents were rife, and several, unfortunately, were of a serious character. However, with the new year the weather improved, grounds got lively, and the players regained their proper form, and for the rest of the season enjoyed an immunity from sprains and fractures. The disappointments of the opening months were amply compensated for by the first-class display of football which closed the season.

The greatest success has attended the efforts made by the Rugby Football Union to extend a thorough knowledge of the Rugby game, and how to play it, in all parts of the kingdom. Its most sanguine supporters in years gone by, little dreamed how completely it was destined to ingratiate itself in the hearts of English, Scotch, and Irish alike; and so rapidly on the increase is its popularity that it is difficult to foresee the future that is in store for it. The number of clubs on the Union list has doubled during the past season, and there are very many both round London and in the north which conform to the Union rules, though as yet they have not signified their adherence. All the leading clubs in Scotland have joined, and after the International Match at Glasgow, a meeting of representatives was held, and a new branch formed in the shape of a Scotish Rugby Football Union. Owing to the close of the season being then so near at hand no further steps have yet been taken, but we hear that in October next it will spring into genuine life and activity. That the Scotch branch will flourish in a limited area as satisfactorily as the Union itself, we have no doubt, and Rugby football will be still further popularised north of the Tweed. There is but little question that the Rugby Union laws will be adopted by it, and it is generally agreed in both countries that the great point to be always kept in view is to have one code, and one only. Rugby football in Scotland was played in conformity with the Union laws during the whole of last season, and it is on all sides allowed that they have worked well. At the same time Scotland some years since revised the Rugby School rules for their own especial use, explaining away and simplifying many of the intricacies, which are so incomprehensible to novices, and introducing one or two minor rules to meet cases which might occur and prove difficult of decision. These rules were generally accepted, and by them nearly the whole present generation of Scotch players learnt football. However, recognising the advantage of unanimity, especially after the establishment of an annual international match, the little green pamphlet was laid on the shelf, and the Rugby Union code reigns in its stead. But, as one or two of the latter rules, as it was thought, might be improved upon, the Scotch committee proposed a conference of five representatives of each nationality, and this was held at Glasgow on the morning of the International Match, England deputing Messrs Stokes, Freeman, Luscombe, Mackinlay, and Guillemard, and Scotland Messrs. Almond, Blyth, Brown, Moncrieff, and M'Clure, to look after their respective interests. Hereat the *pros* and *cons* of the various rules referred to were fully discussed, the Scotch pointing out several additions, alterations, and omissions, which they held would improve the working of the code. Of the advisability of some of these the English were fully convinced, and in order to join both English and Scotch players under one common code it will probably be found necessary to depute a committee from the English and Scotch twenties, who shall meet annually at the time of the International Match to discuss any proposed amendments. The feelings of both communities will thus be satisfactorily arrived at.

Such being the case, it will not be out of place here, briefly, to note one or two of the principal variations existing between the old Scotch code and that drawn up by the Rugby Union, and to lay before football players generally the points in the latter set of rules to which the Scotch committee take objection. In Rule 5 of the Scotch code is "If the ball hits the ground and bounds over the cross-bar, it is no goal." There is no provision to meet such a case as this in the Union rules, and although at Rugby and by most clubs no goal would be claimed, we have heard of disputes being raised on the point, and the insertion of some such clause is most necessary. In Rule 20, the definition of a fair catch, appears, "A fair catch is not vitiated by the ball's touching any of the opposite side who are off-side," but by the Union laws a fair catch must be *direct* from a kick, throw-forward, or knock-on. As all players when off-side are virtually out of the game, and their interfering with the ball or players in any way is quite unwarrantable, the Scotch clause is worthy of consideration. It is hard line that a fair catch—a piece of play which often decides the fortunes of the match—should be spoilt by the unfair interference of an off-side player, whether such interference be wilful or accidental. By Scotch Rule 27, in dropping the ball out from the twenty-five yards post after a touch-down behind goal, if the player drop it so as to pitch in touch the ball is brought back and put down in a scrummage at the spot whence it was dropped out. By the Union rules the ball is brought back and dropped out again. We are not sure that the Scotch plan is not the better of the two, as it prescribes a sort of penalty for bad dropping, and necessitates the ball being fairly started in the middle of the field of play. Rule 31 reads thus: "No player can be off-side in his own goal." We think that the insertion of this in the Union code is most desirable, and especially since, in one of the best matches played round London this season, an instance occurred which might have resulted in an absurd dilemma for the defending side. From a scrummage close to the goal line the ball is kicked hard against the legs of one of the backs some distance behind goal, and bounds back amongst the half-backs. Are they and all the forwards of their side to be powerless to move until one of their opponents has touched the ball down? Or is it not much more natural that, when once driven behind goal, the whole side should be able, without any restrictions, to defend their fortress as best they may? The English committee, at the Scotch meeting, were quite convinced of the advantage of the rule, and it might well be added to Rule 23 of the Union code. The Scotch rules end pithily, "And no one except an umpire or head of the side shall take part in any dispute, except at the request of the umpire or head of his side." There is far too much loud talking in many of the matches round London, when there is some question as to a piece of play, and too frequently in reports of matches we read that "the Fly-by-Nights won by a goal, and a *disputed try* to a try." It is absurd to chronicle a "disputed try." Two captains of sides cannot be worthy of the trust reposed in them if they are unable to settle the matter one way or other. "Give and take" is a good old adage that should be accepted by all football players. Unfortunately some clubs show an undue preference for the taking part, and when taker meets taker, then comes the "disputed try."

There are other minor differences between the two codes, but the chief objection raised by the Scotch committee is with reference to the Rugby Union Rule 12, which allows a player to take up the ball whenever it is rolling or bounding, except in a scrummage. Until the publication of the Union code, the rule always observed at Rugby School—"It is not lawful to take up the ball when rolling or disting uished from bounding"—was invariably followed by the Scotch clubs, and they prefer it to the present system. They urge that taking up the ball so much "discourages dribbling, and produces constant monotonous scrummages in which brute force plays a larger part than science, that it practically disqualifies men under 12st. from being chosen as forwards in the great matches, and is especially injurious to school play." On the other side, the English committee advanced that the restriction against picking up the ball when rolling was formerly enforced round London, but the disputes as to whether the ball was actually off the ground when taken into the hands were so endless that it was abandoned, though reluctantly, in favour of the present system. At Rugby, umpires, some few years ago, were appointed specially to decide these disputes between rolling and bounding, but, though multiplied *ad infinitum*, they failed in most instances to give satisfactory decisions. To pronounce whether a ball is rolling or dead is generally easy enough, but to distinguish between rolling and bounding is, in very many cases, utterly impossible. The present system could hardly be altered with advantage. And yet we should like to see more dribbling amongst forwards, whose play would, in most instances, be greatly improved, if they were to think less of using their hands to the neglect of their feet. Football round London would be all the better if the forwards played the ball more with their feet, and the backs and half backs thought more of dropping at goal.

But to the doings of the past season. The domain of football has been much extended during the winter, and the Union rules, it would appear, have been accepted in several distant countries. In the columns of *Bell's Life* have been published accounts of matches played in Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay, in Switzerland and France, as well as in the most remote corners of the kingdom, and several large consignments of Rugby footballs have been despatched for use in Australia and New Zealand. The merits of the Rugby game are certainly fully appreciated in our colonies, as well as at home. There seems no limit to the spread of its popularity here, and during the past season it has received a wonderful impetus in the north of England. At Liverpool Manchester, Hull, Rochdale, Doncaster, and Leeds, the number of Rugby clubs is very large, and so much is the game in favour in the neighbourhood of Manchester that a Manchester District Association has been formed, binding all the clubs belonging to it to join the Union, and to play by its code of rules. A grand match between the North and South of England will probably be on the *tapis* early next winter. The international match at Glasgow created the greatest interest in football circles in both countries, but the weather was most unfavourable, and for the first time since the founding of these annual meetings no definite result was arrived at. England, however, showed a decided superiority, and a magnificent drop by H. Freeman, after a fair catch, was within a few inches of winning the match for the Southern Twenty. Next year's match will be played in London.

The public schools have been as busy as ever. Rugby had perhaps hardly as good a Twenty as usual, and their crack half-back unfortunately slipped up when running and broke his thigh. Marlborough were in good form, and the best of the schools would have found it a hard matter to beat Wellington, whose Twenty was first-class all-round. From what we have heard, too, Clifton would have proved no mean opponents, and one or two old Rugbeians amongst the masters have taught them to play the Rugby game thoroughly well. The same *regime* obtains at Haileybury, whose back play was very sound and good. Woolwich and Sandhurst played an exciting match, but otherwise have not done much in the way of football this season owing to examinations and vacations extraordinary. The former was decidedly very strong, and possessed an admirable half back in Ord. Oxford University failed to achieve the success predicted of them early in the season, the names of Moberly, Boyle, Nash, Still, Fletcher, Gooding, and Brunskill being well known, but their united efforts were somewhat unproductive. Cambridge University had some very fair players, and made good matches with several of the London clubs. But the Indian Civil Engineering College at Cooper's Hill had as good a Fifteen as was turned out by any club last winter, and Wellington College alone got the better of them, but this was owing to luck rather than superiority. Finney has been in fine form at half-back, and Coles, Davidson, Mareh and others have made the name of Cooper's Hill famous. Blackheath, captained by F. Stokes, lost many of their best men in 1872, and have not played so strong as usual, but they have only been twice beaten, and then under disadvantageous circumstances. Richmond have quite regained their old position, thanks to the energy of their secretary and captain, Messrs. Ash and Heatley, and the influx of a number of Old Wellingtonians. Cooper's Hill and Wellington alone compassed defeat. The Marlborough Nomads, with F. I. Currey captain, have had a most successful season, towards which Freeman's splendid half-back play has contributed materially. The Gipsies, with their founder, F. Luscombe, at the head of affairs, were unfortunate in the matter of accidents, but they were only thrice beaten, and West Kent, led by A. G. Guillemard, suffered but two reverses. Ravenscourt Park have not had a very prosperous season, and must have a long balance of goals against them. It would seem that to split up their forces to play two matches on the same afternoon is not always politic. Union is strength. The Wimbledon Hornets have been playing strong, and will be stronger still next season, but the Clapham Rovers have not played as much as usual. The Harlequins and Flamingoes have held their own fairly, but space fails us to treat of the innumerable clubs that are busily engaged every Saturday afternoon.

In the north of England county matches such as Lancashire v. Yorkshire, have been played as usual, and brought out good football, whilst the Liverpool and Manchester clubs have been travelling about and increasing their reputation. In Scotland the Glasgow Academicals, captained by J. W. Arthur, claim the honours of the season, their goal never having been invaded, whilst they themselves obtained no less than twenty-four tries, but they sadly wanted a sure placekick. Perhaps hardly as many matches as usual have been played by Association rules, but there were several thousand people to witness England v. Scotland at the Oval, and visits have been paid to Glasgow, Sheffield, and Nottingham, so that the dribbling fraternity show no lack of energy. The Wanderers have again won the Association Challenge Cup.

The above notes must suffice as a record of the season of 1872-1873, and I will tend to show how generally and extensively the winter game is being popularised amongst Englishmen everywhere.—*Bell's Life.*

VESSELS IN BOMBAY HARBOUR.

For Liverpool.

1287 Annot Lyle, Yeo—Lawrence & Co.
1348 Ashgrove, Fullerton—M. Nusserwanjee.
1303 Duncairn, Chambers—M. Nusserwanjee.
726 Granite City, Ellis—W. Nicol & Co.
1118 Helen Scott—Gribble—Ritchie, Steuart & Co.
1259 Mabel, White—E. Bates & Co.
1237

dence of the satisfactory character of the Bank's business generally, that they are able out of the year's profits to provide for such heavy and exceptional losses, besides paying a dividend of 6 per cent. for the year. The profit on the year's transactions is £167,496-6-11, out of which a dividend at the rate of 2 per cent. had already been paid for the six months, and a distribution for the past half year at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum is recommended.

The liquidators of Overend Gurney and Co., Limited, Mr. W. Turquand and Mr. B. P. Harding, have declared a fourth return to the shareholders of 10s. per share.

The report on the Suez Canal traffic of 1872 by Messrs. Bazin and Co. of Port Said and Suez has been issued this week. Its details are, I presume, to be relied upon; they are at least very minute, giving each month separate, with name of vessel, nationality, draught of water, cargo, times of entering and leaving the canal, &c. The general summary brings out that a total of 1,081 vessels passed through the canal last year as compared with 761 in the preceding year, the total tonnage being 1,184,890 against 773,009 in 1871. The strictly mercantile vessels were 995 in number last year against 699 in 1871, and the mercantile tonnage 1,082,091 against 698,802. The proportion of mercantile tonnage coming under each flag was as follows: Austrian 46,898 against 41,552; British 812,809 against 506,397; Dutch 23,894 against 6,711; Egyptian 3,892 against 12,832; French 102,207 against 65,959; German 9,074 against 3,520; Italian 44,013 against 28,585; Norwegian 4,846 against 1,316; Portuguese 3,388 against *nil*: Russian 10,380 against 4,498: Spanish 6,120 against 3,157; Turkish 12,783 against 15,707; and various flags, among which are Tunisian, American, Danish and Swedish, 1,917 tons against 8,568. The most striking thing about these proportions, next to the increase in English tonnage about which there never was much doubt, is the extent to which the slow-moving Dutch are making up for lost ground, and the rapid falling off under the head of Egyptian and Turkish Mercantile tonnage. I should add however, that the collective tonnage under the Turkish flag has increased, there being a total of 10,995 under the heading of "Government vessels and yachts" against but 1,252 in 1871. The Dutch appear to have fairly realised the advantages of the Canal, and, it may be assumed, will not now neglect it. The Russians, too, the Italians and the Germans, are evidently conscious of the benefits to be derived, and the very large increase in French vessels is gratifying evidence how thoroughly French commerce has revived. It should of course be borne in mind that these returns include, under the *second* half of the year, the period of the altered charge for dues, and a slight allowance may be made for errors arising from the different mode of taking the aggregate tonnage.

In a previous letter I mentioned the issue of the new scheme called the Railway Debenture Trust, for the purpose of buying up Railway and other debentures. It had an immense success, and, encouraged by that, the indefatigable Albert Grant has brought out a similar Trust for the purchase of Railway shares. This, too, is certain to float, under such names as those of the directors, and it will absorb a large amount of stocks—Indian, probably included. But as I previously pointed out, the calculations as to profit are far too sanguine, and will I think end in partial disappointment.

Baron Grant's success as a promoter is indeed enough to make the whole fraternity green with envy, but his rose is not without its thorns. In addition to the Mineral Hill scandal, of which I long ago wrote, another has just been brought to light in a report by an investigating Committee of Shareholders of the Russia Copper Company, Limited. This is a concern which was brought out in 1871 with a capital of £300,000, and it has since then fallen so much behind that the shareholders determined to probe the matter to the bottom. The report now issued inculpates very seriously Mr. Grant, Mr. Alex. Brogden, M.P., the wealthly iron master of South Wales, and Messrs. John and Richard Taylor, the Mining Engineers. I need not go into the details but content myself now with saying that the Committee denounce some of the statements in the prospectus as "absolutely false," others as serious misrepresentations, and others as "artistically coloured by some experienced hand," admitting at the same time that the utmost diligence they have used has failed to detect by whom this remarkable document was framed. The real blame, however, in these cases does not lie with such a man as Mr. Grant, or even with the Mining Engineers. It is impossible for them to tell what the value of property in remote countries actually is; they are obliged to depend on the representations of the vendors or their agents, and probably Mr. Grant would say that he was as much deceived as any of the shareholders. It is, however, unfortunate for a man who is aiming at the position of a high-class City Banker, that these scandals should be constantly coming to light. I have just to add that although this report was issued yesterday only two newspapers this morning have notices of it, and they suppress altogether the most seriously unfavourable portions; yet it is the strongest thing of the kind since the Chatham and Dover disclosures six years ago. So much for a free press.

A meeting of the creditors of Messrs. Fastnedge and Co., merchants, of East India Avenue, here, was held to day, when, it is understood, the statement submitted by the firm caused much unfavourable comment. The liabilites are about £40,000, and the assets a little over £9000. A composition of 5s. in the pound was offered but indignantly refused by the creditors present, who appointed seven of their number to be a Committee of inspection, to make a searching investigation into the affairs of the firm and report to another meeting to be held not later than the 17th of May. No failures of note have been announced this week, but a few minor suspensions are reported from Lancashire, and there is a vague impression that we shall have other soon.

THE INDO-BRITISH INSTITUTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—At the annual meeting of the Indo-British Institution held last month, several of the speakers expressed their regret that the admissions into its schools were not more numerous. It was explained at the time that the rule of the committee had been to refuse applications for admission in most cases, unless the larger portion of the expense was borne by those applying.

On the strength (I suppose) of the assurance given on behalf of the public, that if the admissions were more free, more liberal aid might be expected, applications have already been received on account of no fewer than *twenty* children, although only a fortnight has elapsed since the meeting. The subjoined particulars will afford some idea of the difficulty of dealing with the cases that come before the committee.

Of these twenty children, twelve are Indo-Britons, seven are native Christians, and one is an Armenian. Their admission will entail a monthly outlay on food, clothes, shoes, and bedding of Rs. 200, or Rs. 10 each; while the aggregate of the payments offered is only Rs. 44, viz, for the twelve Indo-Britons Rs. 36, for the seven native Christians Rs. 2, and for the Armenian lad Rs. 6.

The difference to be raised monthly, *in excess* of the funds needed for the present expenditure of the schools, will, if these children be admitted, be over Rs. 150. May the committee confidently expect such increased support for the institution during the ensuing year as will justify their throwing open its doors to these applicants?

On behalf of myself, as acting secretary, and of my colleague, the acting treasurer, on both of whom, after all, the immediate responsibility of increasing the number of the children in the schools really falls, permit me, though your influential columns, to lay our difficulty before the public.

I may mention also, as an illustration of the unexclusive character of the institution, the benefits of which are not restricted to any class or locality, that five of the children belong to an outstation; and of those residing in Bombay, three are the children of a railway *employé*, two of a subordinate in the Municipality, two of an inmate of a refuge, &c.

I trust that this statement of facts, in connection with a public charity, may create a deeper interest in these schools, and thus put it in the power of the committee to give speedy effect to the wish, so strongly expressed at the annual meeting, that the number of the children may be greatly increased.

CHARLES GILDER,
Acting Secretary, I. B. Institution.

8th May.

AN AWFUL CHALLENGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me space to make the following challenge through your valuable paper:—I shall be glad to play any gentleman at "Dominos" for three games, at 100 points each of the game generally known as "*Buying*," and three games of 100 points of the one known as "*Matador*," being the two games of real skill at "Dominos." The stakes to be, say, one or two gold mohurs the rubber. An answer shall be given through your paper.

A. B. C.

HOW TO PREVENT ALIENATION OF PROPERTY BY THE RYOT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—In your issue of the 30th there is a leader regarding the best way to prevent alienation of property by the ryots.

There is no doubt that though during 1864-65 the ryot managed to clear his property of debt, yet that since that time he has sunk deeper into the mire, and that now, most of the land in the country has come into the hands of the money-lenders, and that the ryots, though ostensibly the owners, are really only the servants of these men.

It is at first incredible that the Indian ryot, who is the most saving and penurious of men, should have fallen into debt to this extent, or that he should not, with a mere nominal rent, have laid by sufficient capital to meet extraordinary expenses. The reason is this: The ryot, like all men of his class, no matter what nation, has a great dread of touching his capital. Sooner than break in on his sacred savings he much prefers going to a money-lender. So if he had a bad crop, or wishes to marry a daughter, or from any other reason is in want of a few hundred rupees, off he goes to the sowcar. It appears so easy to pay off a *certain* sum, whereas if he dips his hand into his hoard he knows not where he will stop.

The result of borrowing money at 30 or 40 per cent., even with *honest* (?) dealing may easily be conceived. The chances are that the dealing is not honest, and that even if he pays off the amount he is not safe.

It often happens that when he pays his last instalment he is made to sign what is called a receipt, and he, poor ignorant fellow, thinks it is a necessary form.

This receipt is nothing more than another bond. Of course it is kept quiet for a time, but after a year or two he is called on to pay up, witnesses are ready who saw him sign the bond and receive the money, and off he is taken to the Moonsiff's Court.

This is no exaggeration—any district officer will confirm it; and indeed I believe that in many cases false witnesses are paid monthly wages for their services.

The only way to deal with this evil is to fight the sowcar with his own weapons. The ryot *will* borrow and the sowcar lends at 30 or 40 per cent. Therefore it is expedient that banks or agencies should be appointed where the people could borrow money at reasonable rates, and make sure of *honest* treatment.

Of course it would take time to break through the custom of centuries, and the opposition from the wealthy money-lenders would be enormous; and for these and other reasons, it would not be wise for a *private* bank to undertake the task; but if Government were to establish these agencies, and by lending money at, say, 5 per cent. on good landed security, help to break the yoke of the money-lenders from the backs of the ryots, they would not only reap a rich harvest, but also confer an inestimable benefit on the most deserving of its subjects.

CIVIS.

NEWS-LETTER.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ADEN, 30TH APRIL.

THE weather is daily getting hotter. A Parsee head clerk in the Police Court here is appointed a Judge in the Small Cause Court, Aden, and empowered to try cases not exceeding Rs. 20. Mr. Muncherjee should be considered a lucky man to obtain such a responsible post, before passing the requisite examination. The B. I. S. N. Co.'s s.s. Calcutta proceeded hence to Zanzibar with mails at 9 A.M. on the 25th.

The police, who have been on the look-out for a long time to detect the individuals who pilfer goods landed from the P. and O. steamers, were successful on the night of the 28th in arresting a number of coolies in the employ of the P. and O. Company here. They had in their possession a quantity of sugar, which had only been extracted from a consignment that arrived that day. The case will be tried before Captain Hunter.

MORE NOTES FROM MAHABLESHWUR.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

3RD MAY.

I HAD no idea when I wrote my last letter from this cool retreat of "wild mountainous confusion," that my contributions of ideas, views, and description of place, people, and events, sent to your paper and written hurriedly, would have occupied two columns of space. I see also that the *Times of India* has reproduced a portion of my letter, being evidently tickled with the assertion that it is possible to visit Mahableshwur for economy. The statement is not a mere speculative one, but founded upon practical experience. To test the problem, however, requires a certain amount of determination, and a large and solid resolution not to care what other people say or think. We are all too prone to yield up our common-sense view of things, and our action thereon, for fear of what our neighbours will say about us one to the other, as if their opinion would make us more rich or increase happiness. The fear of being ridiculed as a dweller in a mud-hut, or as a sojourner in a jowlee-bungalow, forces some people into marble-hall kind of edifices when they can ill-afford to pay for such luxurious abodes, and prevents others from enjoying a cool climate. No doubt a nice house with elegant furniture, an avenue, and flower beds embellished with roses, pinks, and jassamine, and made sweet with perfume, would be far more attractive to our sight and senses than a beautiless camp habitation composed of sticks, grass, mud and matting. But if the shapeless, and perhaps unsightly, wigwam contains within it peace and happiness, which is the priceless gift of heaven, then the rustic retreat may be a far more joyous lodge than the gilded kiosk or spacious pavilion which some of the upstart aristocracy of vulgar wealth have to inhabit, and with bad taste ostentatiously at times compare with the humble but comfortable bivouac of their neighbour.

To return to Mahableshwur. The arrival of Sir Bartle Frere gave a fillip to society, and Bella Vista threw her doors open to receive the friends of the former Governor of Bombay. In accordance with his proverbial hospitality, Sir P. Wodehouse invited a large party yesterday evening to a ball, to meet the Zanzibar Envoy. Dancing was kept up with great spirit until 12 o'clock, when an elegant supper was served. After the repast the lovers of this recreation again began to oscillate, and the mould candles burned low before Sir Phillip's guests grew weary of the merry waltz.

On the 1st instant a botanical show was held at the Frere Hall, and the floral display far exceeded expectation, and showed the visitors that the Deccan mallee, while clothed in dungaree garments, has learned to appreciate the science of plants. The hall made a very pretty conservatory, and the flowers, which were arranged on tiers of steps set up against the walls, gave a green-house effect to the whole scene. With two Excellencies as patrons, pretty women and gallant men as visitors, you can easily imagine the delight of the hill gardeners; but the solid appreciation of their labour and skill in the form of the gift of money-prizes pleased these sons of the spade far more than the plaudits of politicals or the smiles of the fair. The show was well attended, and the committee deserve every credit for the great success which rewarded all their arrangements. A few birds were also exhibited, and every one left pleased with what they witnessed. To-night the Governor has invited a large party to croquet: so you see there is no end to the gaiety of this place. Some of the officers of Sir Bartle Frere's mission vainly kept watch for a tiger a whole night. The wise but unamiable monster would not accept the invitation to come and be killed, and so the sportsmen have been greatly disappointed and go tigerless away.

I see that a correspondent in the *Times of India* has brought up to recollection the robberies of last year, when, as he states, from 16 to 19 houses were plundered. The police establishment is far too small for the protection of property at this station. Already the rogues have committed two robberies on the night of the 24th ultimo. They cut their way through a tent situated next to the English burial-ground, and carried off a box, but finding no gold or silver, left box and contents in the adjoining jungle. Upon the succeeding night they entered the tent of an officer of the Bombay garrison visiting here, and carried off a Japan case containing uniform and papers. The rascals cut off the gold cords, lace ornaments, and buttons from the jacket and waistcoat and then decamped. Had they been content to have neatly removed the gold cords, ornaments and buttons, all the garments might have been repaired, but they tore off their spoil with some blunt instrument, tearing and dragging the cloth, and thus entirely destroying the uniform. No doubt a full enquiry will have to be made regarding this robbery, for the officer upon arrival applied for a watchman, as the pitching-ground was situated in a lonely spot and on the edge of a public path. This was granted, but after a few days the man was withdrawn.

The Ranee of Sattara paid a State-visit to the Governor and Sir Bartle Frere yesterday. She came with all the pomp of Eastern queens, attended by her ministers and soubahdars, followed by elephants, camels, and horses, richly clad courtiers, and a ragged crowd. Pipers and trumpeters performed on most unmusical instruments along the road as she advanced, and the kettle-drum and gong made such a hideous noise that my worn-out tattoos appeared inclined to dance in their tonga harness, even the delicacy of their acoustic organs being offended by the tuneless sounds. The mounted A. D. C.'s were worth looking at: one fat and evidently high officer of State caused some amusement. His horse was led on each side, and the animal's long tail was carried by a bearer, and reminded me of Queen Victoria's pages at St. James' twenty years ago carrying a lady's train. It was thought well that the horse should prance for our special edification, and so the rider, as a poet said, "provoked the canter he appeared to chide." The well trained steed snorted and obeyed, and gave three or four bounds and a gentle rear. Then the rider looked at us as much as to say, "What do you think of that?" all the time a superb umbrella was held over the head of the noble to preserve his dark skin from the rays of the bright sun; but as a wind was blowing, and he looked shivery shaky I thought this somewhat unnecessary. Swords and small flags were carried before Her Sattara Majesty, and an hour glass—why the latter, I could not make out.

4TH MAY.

I left off yesterday to go out and enjoy a long walk, and find that I have little more to add. The Governor's croquet party went off gaily last evening. The Zanzibar party leave on Monday for Simla. Sir Bartle Frere has kept his views to himself, but should he propose an expedition to the African coast he will find plenty of aspirants for the honour of joining, although no one believes that any fighting or "a soldier's best reward, a ribbon," will be got out of the affair.

And now having done correspondence, "Our Own Correspondent" as I see you have gazetted me, I must be allowed to have a say on things in general, for I think I shall feel more at home in making comments than in painting men, manners, and places, which, as you know, is not much in my line.

Mahableshwur is full, if the letting of the seats in church be an index, for nearly all the pews are taken. On this subject I have to observe that I think Government should take the care and repair of the building into its own hands. The moment a visitor arrives at this station a book is sent to him, and he is invited to take a seat on a very heavy payment. I think seats for two persons would be about Rs 15 for the season, and as most people only come for a month or two this is a very high charge. Now, no one would object to pay according to their means for hearing the Gospel, but many people cannot afford this tax. The monthly subscription to the various institutions of Mahableshwur are by no means light, for instance, the library costs Rs. 5 per month, and the croquet a similar sum, and so on; and when all these small subscriptions are totalled up they come to much more money than some find it convenient to subscribe, and consequently they have to decline membership. I know of cases where people have read their prayers at home of a Sunday sooner than attend a church where they are almost forced to pay, and where they would almost be regarded as intruders if they did not hire seats. In my own case I pay £12 a year at home as a rent charge to the clergyman of my own parish, and I positively cannot afford to pay here £1-10 for a few weeks. I do not blame any one in particular for what I complain about, but the system is wrong, and in a public place of resort like Mahableshwur the poor man should not be called upon to pay as much as the rich for church-fees. At home the amount of these rates depends upon the annual income derived from property, so the rich man pays in proportion to his ability, and so does he who has less means. I do not speak of proprietory chapels and churches in England, where the salary of the clergyman depends upon pew rents. People who patronize popular preachers for the pleasure of hearing extempore sermons, and who desert their parish church, naturally expect to pay for the luxury of hearing bursts of oratory, and arguments on novel and exciting points of divinity; but I really think it is an evil of no small magnitude that attendance at the Lord's house should involve either the unpleasantness of making it patent that you cannot afford paying for your seat as others do, or the wrong of actually abstaining from the place set apart for the public worship of God. This is not in unison with the great principle of our Christian church of going, without money and without price, to the altar of the Almighty. It may be pleaded that there are seats and chairs in the rear and at the sides for those who cannot pay, but as there will be no back-sittings in heaven provided for those who suffer from impecuniosity, I think there should be no lesser degrees of respectability and comfort provided in the earthly tabernacle for those miserable sinners who would be rich as Crœsus if they could.

The rate charged for tongas, the vehicles used here, is simply absurd. A pair of tattoos and a very common cart costs Rs. 5 per day, and if you only drive from one house to the other, although the distance is only 500 yards, Rs. 2 are charged. This should not be so, as grass is very cheap. The published merrick or market rate cannot be relied upon, and it is not always possible to purchase articles of consumption at the quoted prices. English stores are wonderfully cheap, taking into consideration the distance the goods have to come and the heavy expense attending carriage. Many people come here for repose after a very long and trying Bombay season, but little rest is to be obtained. This place is gaiety itself, and dinners, croquets, and riding parties are the order of the day. An old coat, or a very plain robe, is useless at Mahableshwur. People dress here far better than at Bombay or Poona, and this, I think, a grand mistake. If you venture to keep quiet, and to retire from public life for a season, you are considered a spoil-sport, and a few stop to analyse your motives, which may be those of economy, or induced by a consideration for your health. I cannot endorse your remarks upon the disposal of the patronage of this Presidency. A new Governor can hardly be a judge of the claims of candidates for appointments, and it is more than necessary, that until he is fully acquainted with the public claims of individuals he should lean upon the joint advice of his Council in making a nomination. This is a very different matter to that of being guided by the opinion of any one particular member. There is a very strong and general feeling here that Mr. Gibbs will prove equal to his new duties. He has a wide acquaintance with the history and wants of the Presidency, and has an intimate knowledge of the capabilities and claims of most of the Bombay civil and military officers, although no Governor should permit himself to be dictated to: there is no ruler having the true and great interest of the country at heart, over which he presides, who would object to hear the opinion of his junior colleagues upon any question. By their opinions he is not bound, but their expression assists the just view of and final decision of important questions.

I intended to have made a few remarks upon the false and unjust charges which the *Times of India* recently permitted a correspondent to make in a letter addressed to that journal, upon the mode in which the Commander-in-Chief and his Adjutant-General settled the distribution of army patronage. No one who knows the public or private life of these gentlemen would believe that the claims of officers are debated over glasses of sherry, or that improper influence is allowed to weigh in the selection of officers for regimental or other commands. Some gentlemen may be passed over at times, who have senior claims, ability, and education, but this possibly arises from a misconception of the new orders of the Home Government, and from too literal an interpretation or adherence to obsolete rules and regulations. I believe if this has occurred, and that the interests of some have suffered for a time, the true reason exists in the over-anxiety of these official personages to do justice to officers who are supposed to have superior claims for the reputation of being qualified in some one particular point, either as a linguist or by the possession of some military accomplishment. But I never will believe, and trust the public will not receive it as truth, that unworthy motives have led to the supersession of, or the non-recognition of, the claims of those who have been passed over, however hard and soul-cutting has been the apparent official cold-shade into which by some accident such gentlemen have fallen. I have often observed in life that those men whose claims have been unnoticed, and who for years have been unbeneficed have frequently, unrewarded, done more special service, and better assisted the State, than those who have been for years the occupants of sinecures and the receivers of princely incomes. Let then those who inspired the jealous letter to which I refer to take a cheery view of the subject. Perhaps they may some day out-distance the drabs whom they now feel are but the moths of a season and the children of gay fortune. This, perhaps, may be sanguine advice, but it is at least more noble than a secret attack, although the shikar be that high class kind of gamecock, the head of a department; against whom (in the nature of things) it is likely that a great many shots will be fired. If any one is unjustly treated let him invoke the trinity of truth, pen, and foolscap. There may not be omnipotence in these weapons, and their agency may fail, but a dignified appeal, a firm attitude, is at any rate becoming, and must win respect. I always shun a man who fails to first state his grievance, save to a newspaper: it is time enough to pray at the altar of the fourth estate, time enough to lay a petition even at the foot of Victoria's throne, when all disposition to do rightly appears to have ceased, or when you fail in making the authorities comprehend or listen to a legitimate cause of complaint. If this argument should not suffice to convince the correspondent of the *Times of India*, then I might tell him, by the experience of years, and with the authority of law, that letters attributing improper motives calculated to stir up inflamed feeling, or to bring officials into odium, are sufficient to sustain an action at common law, or to warrant criminal proceedings. If the writer be a soldier he has already rendered himself amenable to martial jurisdiction by the publication of matter contrary to the maintenance of good order and discipline in the commissioned grades.

BOMBAY.

FAIR.—The annual fair of Dhackjee Dajee's temple will be held at Mahaluxmee on Sunday next.

BROACH ASSOCIATION.—Mr. Sorabsha Dadabhoy has tendered the resignation of his office as Secretary of the Broach Association.

THEFT OF A RAILWAY WATCH.—A guard on the G. I. P. Railway by name G. C. Taylor reported to the police yesterday the theft of a railway watch.

SUBORDINATE JUDGE AT SURAT.—Mr. Burjorjee Eduljee Mody has been appointed to act as Subordinate Judge at Surat, vice Rao Saheb Jadawrai Runchordas.

VACCINATION DEPARTMENT.—Dr. T. Cody, Superintendent of Vaccination, Western Circle has been allowed privilege leave for three months, from 1st June next.

WEATHER AT BROACH.—We observe that the heat at Broach is quite unbearable. Fever and small pox have prevailed to a slight extent in some of the talookas of the collectorate.

THE VEHAR LAKE.—The height of water in Vehar Lake for the week ending Saturday, 3rd May, was 41 feet 3 tenths. In the corresponding week last year it was 37 feet 9 tenths.

COLLECTOR OF BROACH.—Mr. W. Ramsay, of the Bombay Civil Service, has been appointed to act as Collector and Magistrate of the district of Broach during Mr. White's absence.

ACTING DISTRICT JUDGE OF SURAT.—Mr. H. M. Birdwood, Joint Judge of Tanna, has been appointed to act as Judge and Sessions Judge at Surat during Baron Larpent's absence.

SUICIDE.—An inquest was held on Wednesday at the Jamsetjee Hospital on the body of Luckmee, woman. The jury found that she had committed suicide by taking a poisonous dose of opium.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS.—Mr. F. R. S. Wyllie has been appointed to act as Deputy Commissioner of Customs and Opium, Presidency Division, on Mr. Jacomb's proceeding to Europe on furlough.

THEFT.—On Wednesday Captain Becke, residing at the Marine Lines, reported to the executive police the loss of a gold finger ring set with pearls, and a sovereign. Enquiries are being instituted into the matter.

ACCIDENT.—A Hindoo named Gopal Balloo, employed on board the steam ship Bellona, got his left foot seriously injured on Wednesday whilst he was working at a steam crane on board the ship. He was removed to the Jamsetjee Hospital.

HEAVY PUNISHMENT.—A Hindoo named Moorar was charged the other day before the full-power magistrate of Broach with stealing a pair of shoes, and was on conviction sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment and to receive fifty stripes.

UNDER-SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.—Mr J Nugent resumed charge of the offices of Under-Secretary to Government in the Judicial, Political, and Educational Departments, and of Secretary to Government in the Legislative Department, on Monday.

ENTICING AWAY A MARRIED WOMAN.—At the Fort Police Court on Wednesday a man name Muckoonda Janoo appeared before Mr. Nana Morojee, and obtained a warrant against one Rowjee Nathoobhoy, whom he charged with enticing away his wife.

ALIMONY.—A Mussulman named Chugoo Bapookhan was charged before the Senior Magistrate yesterday with having failed to pay the monthly allowance of ten rupees to his wife for the last three months. He was sentenced to a month's imprisonment.

NEW PLEADERS.—The Judges of the High Court have issued sunnuds to Messrs. Ghanasham Nilkanth, Vakeel, High Court, and Mr. Luxmon Bhikajee Wakharkar, authorising the former to practise as a pleader at Belgaum, Dharwar, and Canara, and the latter at Tanna.

AN INTOXICATED BUGGYWALLA.—At the Fort Police Court yesterday, before Mr. Connon, one Jairam Mulloo was charged with being an attendant of a public conveyance, and being intoxicated when plying for hire at Bhooleshwur. The man admitted the offence and was fined ten rupees.

A PASSENGER IN THE S.S. ELPHINSTONE, which was advertised to stop at Panjim on her last voyage to Goa, writes to us to complain that the steamer anchored at goadu, which is five miles distant from Panjim, thereby putting many of the passengers to trouble, inconvenience, and expense.

ASSAULT.—At the Girgaum Police Court yesterday, before Mr. Cooper, a Mussulman named Shaik Cumall Imam was charged with committing an assault against the person of one Dhondoo Bhickoo. He was adjudged guilty and fined Rs. 50, with the alternative of a month's rigorous imprisonment.

APPLICATION FOR WARRANTS—At the Girgaum Police Court yesterday, Mr Ardaseer B. Kapadia, barrister-at-law, on behalf of one Bapoo Ramjee, applied to Mr Cooper for warrants for the apprehension of one Luximon, one Hoosein, and one Marina on a charge of voluntarily causing grievous hurt to Bapoo Ramjee. His Worship granted the application.

STATEMENT OF SILVER BALANCE IN THE MINT.—Value of silver in the Mint on the morning of the 28th April 1873, Rs. 65,55,616; add silver received during the week Rs. 34,479; deduct, new coin paid during the week, Rs. 3,00,018; total balance, Rs. 62,90,077. There are in addition 89,924 rupees' worth of silver bullion belonging to private individuals deposited in the Mint vaults, and awaiting assay.

THE MAHIM DISTURBANCE—The case in which one Marians Dias, a clerk in the P & O Co's Office, Dumbra Mello, Ignacio Gonsalves and one Lalla Sweeper stood charged by the Rev Vicar of St Michael's, Upper Mahim, with trespass and injury, accompanied by force, to his property, came on for investigation yesterday morning before the magistrate of the Girgaum Police Court, Dr. Dillas representing the plaintiff and Mr. Payne the defendants. His Worship adjourned the case to the 11th June.

A HINDOO STAMP VENDOR COMMITTED TO THE SESSIONS.—On Wednesday the Senior Magistrate committed a Bhattia named Khemjee Premjee for trial at the ensuing Criminal Sessions of the High Court, on a charge of using a Government stamp known to have been used, and for knowingly selling a Government stamp for which the mark denoting that such stamp had been used had been erased. We have already published the particulars of the case. Mr. Cleveland appeared on behalf of Mr. Peile, Acting Public Prosecutor, to conduct the prosecution; Mr. Hurryshunker defended the accused.

THE LATE MURDER OF A BHEEL IN THE VILLAGE OF TUNKERIA.—At a Court of Criminal Sessions held at Broach the other day, before the Assistant Sessions Judge of Surat, Khood Ahmed Sallay, Kabhoy Runchord, Jeebhoy Bapoo, Rama Suds, Kabhoy Amersug, Kabhoy Jala, Pusha Jeejee and Vuja Dajee, were charged with murder in having some time ago caused the death of a Bheel in the village of Tunkeria, near Broach, and Oomer Obbhram with voluntarily causing grievous hurt by means of an instrument. The first and last prisoners were convicted. The former was sentenced to be hanged and the latter to undergo five years' rigorous imprisonment. The rest were acquitted. We have already published the particulars of the case.

THE S.S. CHANCELLOR.—The short time which this fine steamer took to do the distance between Liverpool and Bombay—28 days—has been remarked upon as something quite exceptional outside the regular mail line; but to those who see the vessel, it will not seem such a wonder that her speed is great, for her whole fittings are new and of a very superior description. Her gross tonnage is 2,951, and her nominal horse power 200 (although the latter may be extended to 1,300), and her length is 320 feet over all. Her saloon is one of the prettiest we have seen, and the berths are airy and of the most comfortable description. The Chancellor is a kind of ship that is not often seen in the harbour, and when we accepted Captain Reynold's invitation to walk over her, we admit that we were astonished to find everything so admirably complete. If a class of steamers like her spring up for the passenger trade between England and India, the position of the regular mail service will be seriously menaced.

THE CASE OF ADULTERY IN POONA WITHDRAWN.—The case of adultery, which was committed to the Criminal Sessions by Colonel G. C. Evezard, the Cantonment Magistrate, has been compromised between Sergeant Hutchinson and John Hannah and the case was allowed by the Session Judge on Tuesday last to be withdrawn.—*Poona Observer.*

EXTRAORDINARY RUMOUR.—A rumour in the city of Poona has been in circulation since the commencement of the week, that a Devil, who designates himself to be the brother of Dengue, and who is roaming about, calls out three times to a person by name, and if the person called happens to answer him he will be suddenly carried off. This rumour is very much believed to be true by the superstitious class of people.—*Poona Observer.*

MORTUARY RETURNS.—The total number of deaths registered during the week ending Tuesday, the 6th May, was 319, being 18 less than in the preceding week, 145 less than the total of the week ending 7th May 1872, and 60 less than the mean of the corresponding period in the previous five years. During the week 215 births were reported in the different districts of the city.

SECTION OR SUB-SECTION.	Population by Census of 1872.	Small-pox.	Fever.	Cholera.	Nervous System.	Resp. System.	Digestive System.	Accidents and violence.	Total (including Not Classed).	Total birth ex. of still-born.
Colaba &c.	16,601	...	3	...	...	...	...	4	4	
Fort, Southern	2,383	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Fort, Northern	29,732	1	2	...	4	...	2	12	11	
Esplanade	10,464	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	4	
Market	45,198	4	10	...	5	...	1	32	24	
Mandvee	35,100	4	8	1	4	1	5	28	15	
Chuklá	36,748	1	5	...	1	1	1	14	10	
Dumbarkharee	49,873	...	21	1	2	7	2	14	14	
Dongree	25,556	...	6	...	2	2	...	16	11	
Dhobeetalao	37,911	1	7	...	4	1	3	24	13	
Nanowaree	20,700	...	...	...	1	...	1	4	5	
Bhoolesh wur	36,029	...	4	...	2	2	...	14	6	
Kharatalao	23,638	1	5	...	1	4	...	16	6	
Koombarwara	27,604	1	6	...	...	...	...	12	11	
Khetwaree	24,217	...	2	...	2	3	...	10	10	
Girgaum	21,234	...	6	...	1	3	...	15	5	
Chopatee	7,831	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	
Walkeshwur	7,741	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	4	
Mahaluxmee	4,317	1	...	...	...	3	...	1	1	
Mazagon	20,973	...	3	...	2	...	...	7	10	
Tarwaree	10,033	...	...	1	1	1	...	3	3	
Kamat. & Bye.	75,728	1	18	...	1	3	4	35	18	
Parell	13,773	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	8	
Seeree	4,460	...	1	...	1	...	...	2	6	
Sion	11,572	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	4	
Mahim	14,310	...	1	...	3	...	...	6	5	
Worlee	10,422	2	...	...	1	...	...	5	4	
Water Division	24,033	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	
Non-resident & unknown	.....	...	...	...	...	2	1	3	...	
Bombay.....	644,405	19	111	3	23	33	10	5	319	215
Mean of corresponding weeks in the preceding five years.		60	129	7	35	40	34	6	379	...

The following statement shows the number of deaths of the different races or castes:—

RACE OR CASTE.	Small-pox.	Fever.	Cholera.	Nervous System.	Resp. System.	Digestive System.	Accidents and violence.	Total (including Not Classed).	Total birth ex. of still-born.
Boodhist—Jain, &c.	2	6	...	2	1	...	...	16	12
Brahman	2	4	...	...	1	2	...	12	4
Lingaet	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	...
Bhatia	...	7	...	...	...	2	...	7	7
Hindoo of other Caste	9	51	2	12	14	18	1	149	121
Hindoo Out-caste	...	7	...	...	1	...	1	11	12
Moosulman	...	27	...	3	14	9	...	80	29
Parsee	3	5	...	2	...	5	1	25	19
Jew	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Native-Christian	...	4	...	1	...	4	1	10	7
Indo-European	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
European	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
Negro-African	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Chinese	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...
Unknown Race	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total...	19	111	3	23	33	40	5	319	215
Corresponding week '73	85	174	1	45	24	27	5	464	265

SHIPPING ITEMS.

THE S.S. WILLIAM COBY, 1,323 tons, Captain G. CROXON, sailed yesterday for Liverpool via the Suez Canal with a cargo of 6,576½ bales cottou, 281 bales wool, 900 cwts galls, 130 cwts horns, and 195 cwts. coir yarn.

THE B. I. S. N. Co.'s s.s. AGRA, 1,235 tons, Captain J C. Sharp, arrived in harbour yesterday from Coast and Calcutta (April 19th) with a general cargo and the following passengers:—Mr J B Spedding, C S, and thirty deck passengers.

THE SHIP ANDAMAN, 955 tons, Captain J. G. Potter, arrived in harbour on the 7th instant from Liverpool (December 18th) with a cargo of 1,051 tons coals and 182 tons coke. She spoke the ship Wm Woodbury from Shields to Bombay on the 12th February. The vessel is consigned to Messrs Lyon and Co.

THE SHIP IRON CROSS, 1,508 tons, Captain A Mc. Clelland, arrived in harbour yesterday from Newcastle (December 30th) with a cargo of 1,703 tons coals. The captain reports that during the voyage he experienced heavy weather while leaving the Channel; subsequently light adverse winds and calms. After leaving parted several channel plates in the gales. The vessel is consigned to Messrs Lawrence and Co.

THE P. & O. Co.'s s.s. CHINA, 1,348 tons, Captain C G Perrins, which arrived in harbour on the